

## **Twenty-Ninth Sunday in the Ordinary Time**

The first thing worthy of mention is the intention on the part of those questioning Jesus in today's gospel account from St. Matthew. Their goal is not to acquire knowledge but rather to trap Him. They want Him to say that taxes should not be paid to Rome as was the law. Those sent by the Pharisees are prompting Our Lord to choose between obedience to the civil law and obedience to God. Jesus calls them by name; "hypocrites." The image and words on a coin indicate to whom it belongs. True devotion and reverence belong to God. The Lord instructs them to pay each their due.

As followers of Christ, we too face the challenge of where our loyalty and devotion should be placed. By virtue of our Baptism, we belong to the Catholic community. The Church founded by Christ Himself and carried on by two thousand years of sacred tradition. The teachings of our Church are rich and filled with the inspiration which comes from the Holy Spirit. In following our faith, we do God's will and aim our sights at the reward which awaits us. May our Lord lead us always to the will of the Father and give us the grace we need to live according to His will.

Peace,

*Fr. Robert*

